

The Holt County Sentinel

40TH YEAR.

OREGON, MISSOURI, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1904.

NUMBER



DECEMBER
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Arrival and Departure of Mails at the Postoffice, Oregon, Mo.

MAILS DEPART:

7:20 a. m. For Omaha and intermediate points, and all points north, east and west.

12:10 p. m. For all points north, south, east and west, except Tarkio and Villisca branches.

3:45 a. m. For St. Joseph and intermediate points.

3:30 p. m. For New Point only.

10:00 a. m. Helwig supplied by Rural Carrier, Route No. 2.

4:25 p. m. For Villisca, north, mail to all points north, east, south and west, except intermediate between Forest City and St. Joseph.

12:45 p. m. For all points north, south, east and west. Mail made up at 8:00 p. m.

MAILS ARRIVE:

8:50 a. m. Omaha—Mails from all points, north, east, south and west.

10:20 a. m. Villisca and Tarkio Valley branches. Mails from north, east, south and west.

11:30 a. m. From New Point only.

3:15 p. m. Main line K. C., St. Joe. & C. B. Mails from all points, north, south, east and west.

4:00 p. m. From St. Joseph.

10:00 a. m. Rural Route No. 2, leaves. Returns at 4:00 p. m.

10:00 a. m. Rural Route No. 1, leaves. Returns at 4:00 p. m.

2:45 a. m. Rural Route No. 3, leaves. Returns at 4:00 p. m.

2:30 a. m. Main line K. C., St. Joe. & C. B. Mail from all points.

Mails are made up promptly 15 minutes before departing time.

New Point mail arrives and departs daily except Sunday.

Mail to Fortescue, Rulo and points on the B. & M. in Nebraska within 100 miles of this office, should be mailed before 8:45 a. m. in order to reach its destination the same day.

Mails from main line of K. C., St. Joe. & C. B. north and south, are made up and depart at the same time, for day train, 12:19 p. m.

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY.

Circuit Court.

Convenes first Monday in January, fourth Mondays in April and August.

Gallatin Craig, circuit judge.

Frank Petree, prosecuting attorney.

George W. Hogrefe, circuit clerk.

James A. Williams, sheriff.

Harry M. Irwin, stenographer.

Probate Court.

Convenes second Mondays in February, May, August and November.

Henry T. Alkire, probate judge.

County Court.

Regular Terms: First Mondays in February, May, August and November.

Jacob Wehrli, presiding judge.

G. W. Pullen, judge 1st district.

Wm. H. Allen, judge of 2d district.

Enoch A. Welty, clerk of county court.

F. L. Zeller, deputy county clerk.

County Board of Health.

Jacob Wehrli, president.

G. W. Pullen, vice-president.

W. C. Froud, county physician.

Enoch A. Welty, secretary.

County Board of Education.

A. R. Coburn, Oregon.

W. W. Gallaher, Mound City.

Alberta C. Green, Clay.

Collector of Revenue, Nicholas Stock.

County Treasurer, Lewis I. Moore.

Recorder of Deeds, Robert Callow.

Commissioner of Schools, A. R. Coburn.

Public Administrator, M. D. Walker.

Superintendent of Poor, Abner Carson.

Surveyor, G. M. Armstrong.

Assessor, W. H. Weightman.

—Prof. A. R. Coburn is attending the state teachers' association, which is in session at Columbia this week.

An End and a Beginning.

Christmas and Thanksgiving and the Fourth of July have an eternal sameness. It is not so with New Year's. Every New Year's day is new; each closes a definite epoch, each opens an unknown era. What is done, is done, and man seals the book, whether he seals it with his approval or disapproval. What is to come is a mystery, and man looks for it, unexpectedly, despite the fact that he knows enough of the mystery to know that what has been is that which shall be, and there is nothing new under the sun, and there is always the same unendurable and exquisite mingling of pain and pleasure. It requires bravery to turn one's back on one's past; either that past is alluring as Gomorrah was to Lot's wife, or that is a stab that may strike when the back is turned. But it requires bravery to face the future, to look across an uncharted sea of an unknown year, to know that there are monsters in the deep and storms lowering beyond the horizon's verge, and yet to start with a cheerful morning face in that light shallop, which is all that the great builder of human ships permits to his faithful navigators. Small wonder that from the birth of the sea it has stood as the symbol of the human mystery, that the most touching prayer of the prayer book is the mercy asked for those in peril on the sea; that a most beautiful passage in the Book is that one which considers "those that go down to the sea in ships—that do business in great waters."

Life at its very best is a failure. You pass the mile stones one by one, twenty, forty, sixty, and at each summing up you recognize that you have not achieved, have not attained. You have never the energy to do what the moment offers, or you do not recognize the opportunity of the moment till it is passed. Hand is never paired with brain, daring is never equal to conceiving, doing never measured to dreaming, act never commensurate with thought. And allied with inevitable failure is inevitable blindness. Because the failure of the old year stands out so definitely to the senses is no warrant that the New Year is to be any freer from mistakes, any richer in achievement. Man goes from error to error, and the wonder is that in the very final end, it is one hundred and not zero that is attained.

For however, much we fail at every turn and each old year dies the death of deaths, yet in the end we succeed, and our infinite number of zeros has placed before it a one that gives definiteness to success. We have won because before and above the zeros of failure is the one, the ego, the personality and that always succeeds. There can be no failure if one b comes from year to year, and makes not so very much difference what one becomes, so that he but becomes. To have lived is quite enough if the error is not made of thinking that to exist is to live. Existence is passive, but life is a fight; it feels like one, and to have fought a good fight is to have done. "It's die we must, and it's live we can."

The only resolution that is worth making on a new year is the resolution to live. It is the only one that can be kept, for the only other ones that are possible are resolutions which merely embody what one is already doing. Perhaps it is not so evil to make a resolution and break it, for the breaking is better than the dull monotony of dead-level existence. But to determine to have life and to have it more abundantly is both the law and the gospel. It is the only way by which to turn failure into success, to make life livable.

Harriman left the Illinois Central to go to New York; Hill went from St. Paul, Rockefeller from Ohio. The four bigest train men in Chicago are from the Pacific coast. The railroad world is run by men from the West. Ride along Fifth avenue and listen to the guide as he tells off the names of the owners of the great palaces that line that richest residence street of the world. Take out half a dozen old New York families, and who have you left? Men who came from Western oil fields or copper mines or steel plants or harvester works. The New York Stock exchange is crowded with Western railroad men, Western iron and steel and coal and steamship magnates. They grew up in the West, they made their pile and now they are laying down the law to Wall street.

The decision of the Treasury Department that a frog is a bird seems to have been investigated by a Pennsylvania judge, who has decided that a bird is not an animal. We wish the judge had gone into the matter a little further and decided just what a bird is, for Secretary Shaw evidently still believes a frog is a bird and therefore a bird must be very nearly a frog—a kind of jumping bird with the feathers off. The trouble we fear with our treasury secretary is, that while consorting with the Washington diplomats he has been fed on frogs' legs and thought he was eating quail.

A Great Christmas Gift.

Ambrose Grounds received a Christmas gift, that will ever remain green in his memory. On December 21, 1904, he received as a Christmas present, his pardon from the penitentiary by Governor Dockery. On April 8th, 1899, he shot and killed John Freeman in Craig. At the April term, '99 of our circuit court, he was indicted, and at a special term of our circuit court held November 8, 1899, he was found guilty of fourth degree murder on the 10th, and was sentenced



AMBROSE GROUNDS

to serve ten years in the penitentiary. He at once returned to Craig, after his where he is now among his former associates.

The following is a brief history of the case: Mr. Grounds had been keeping company with Mr. Freeman's daughter, who at that time was about 15 years of age. The father objected and they met clandestinely. The mother it appears, was more favorable than the father to Mr. Grounds calling, and on various occasions helped to conceal the fact from the father, taking sides with the daughter. Mr. Freeman had, as understood, ordered Grounds away and positively forbade him calling at the house. It is supposed on the evening of the murder Grounds was at the Freeman home calling on Miss Freeman. The father had been away and had possibly returned, but in the trial no one swore to those facts. Along about 8 o'clock in the evening of April 8, 1899, there was a pistol shot heard in the vicinity of the public school building, which was near the Freeman home. Several parties at once went in the direction of the shot, and they found Freeman lying on the ground, face downward, body still warm and several bullet wounds in the head. There were no other marks of violence on his body. Several parties followed the intuition and suspicion based upon the fact that Grounds had been seen talking these relations with the girl. They went to the house of George Redmon, where Grounds had been stopping. There they found the pistol which Grounds had borrowed from Redmon



JOHN FREEMAN.

with several chambers empty, with some blood on the pistol barrel, and the pistol yet warm. Grounds was arrested on suspicion.

The jury that tried the case was composed of Albert McIntyre, Seeley Reeves, Taylor Davidson, Hugh Brohan, of Nodaway township; Ara McIntire and James E. Taylor, of Forbes; James Huit, of Clay; Scott Carson, of Hickory; Jonas Wats, of Frank Watson, Hugh Burrier and Thomas Hamm, of Lewis. Ivan Blair was the prosecutor, who was assisted by Boss Miles, of Rock Port. Grounds was defended by John Kennish, Frank Petree and H. B. Williams.

Freeman when killed was 39 years old, and Grounds was in his 21st year at the time, and will be 36 years old the coming February.

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The Law's Delay.

Judge Wofford, of the Kansas City Criminal Court, took occasion recently, in connection with a case then pending in his court, to denounce the practice of applying for continuances on slight pretexts. This sentiment will be heartily approved by the public. While good reasons for continuances sometimes exist, in most cases the only apparent motive appears to be to defeat the ends of justice.

The aggregate of criminal costs to the state is enormous at best, and every effort should be made to keep them down to a reasonable figure. Yet such costs are greatly increased by the weary continuance of cases from term to term and from year to year.

It is significant that the continuances applied for by the defense are vastly more numerous than those applied for by the state. There must be a reason for this. The burden of proof rests upon the state. Yet almost invariably if the trial of a case is put off the more difficult to prosecute it and the easier to defend it. The circumstances connected with a crime fade gradually out of the minds of witnesses. Important witnesses die or remove to distant places. It can be seen how helpful it is to the defense to gain time. No one realizes this more than State Senator Farris, charged with bribery, and not yet convicted or acquitted, although he was indicted two years ago.

There should be no disposition to prosecute the accused or to deprive them of any right the law allows. It would seem that the courts usually lean in the direction of leniency rather than of strictness. Undoubtedly the defense abuses the continuance privilege. It is to be hoped that the announced determination of the Kansas City judge to hold a tight rein in this respect may inspire other courts to follow his example.

A Famous Siege.

After all the false cries of "wolf" the wolf came at last. There have been many false cries about the impending fall of Port Arthur, but in the end Port Arthur must fall. That end cannot now be far off. If one object moves toward another, even ever so slowly, it will reach it in time. The Japanese are steadily moving in toward the citadel of Port Arthur, and not after all, so slowly. At the present rate of progress it will not take long to complete the work. The story of their advance is a record of remorseless and irresistible progress, from time to time and base to base, sweeping the whole peninsula before them.

At the end of May the Japanese line extended across the peninsula east and west from Society Bay to Dalny, seventeen miles from Port Arthur. By the end of June they had advanced to within twelve miles of the citadel. Five miles a month was not rapid progress, but it was sure. The end of July saw only five miles more gained. By September 21 the west line actually extended to the extremity of Pigeon Bay south of Port Arthur and its east line at Swainson Point just east of Port Arthur. Since then there has been a steady pushing forward all along the line, until they are now within 2½ miles of the water front of the goal. Thus it has taken from the end of May to the middle of December, about twenty-nine weeks to advance about fifteen miles. That fact speaks much for the stubbornness of the Russian defense. It also speaks much for the dogged resolution of the Japanese, and sends into eternal limbo all the old-time talk about their "dashing initiative but lack of persistence." There can henceforth be no question as to their staying qualities. The whole siege is already well assured of fame by the side of the sieges of Syracuse, Danzig, Antwerp, Sebastopol, Vicksburg, Richmond, and others in which manhood has come as nearly as possible to a realization of the proverbial impact of an irresistible force upon an immovable body. No fortress is quite impregnable, no defenders are unconquerable, no attack is irresistible, unless we go to extremes capable of only metaphysical conception. But there can be no question that Port Arthur has vindicated its name of "Gibraltar of the East," and that both assailants and defenders have shown to the world in almost matchless measure what long enduring hearts can do.

The efforts of the Japanese to destroy the Russian war vessels in the harbor of Port Arthur seem to have been at last successful. The Sevastopol, the great fighting ship of the Russian Port Arthur fleet is at last riddled with shot and shelled and put into a condition rendering her useless for any further action during the present war. The practical annihilation of this fleet as a fighting force leaves Admiral Togo free to act offensively against the Baltic sea squadron, and with forty vessels has gone to Formosa, to be in readiness to meet that fleet on its way to the sea of Japan.

In front of Mukden matters are quiet. The cold is extreme, and military opera-

In the brown stone cottage as Miss North fairly flew out into the mossy glancing at first, then the figure in gray. She was out on the made gown had saw the girl ble cottage, cogitat- Druehrs'.

tions on a large scale are impossible. The feeling is growing that the war is to be a long one—or, rather, that it must be a fight to the finish.

Loses Citizenship.

One of the most interesting phases of a case that is unique in many respects developed last week when it was learned that in affirming the judgement of the Cole county circuit court, fining State Senator W. P. Sullivan \$100 for soliciting a bribe, the Kansas City court of appeals also forever deprived Senator Sullivan of his citizenship. Senator Sullivan was found guilty of soliciting a bribe for his vote on the pure food bill during the legislative session of 1903. He was accused of going to a representative of the Missouri baking powder companies and asking for \$3,000 for his vote and two others against the so-called pure food or "alum" bill. The fine of \$100 and costs of the suit are a mere bagatelle as compared to the loss by Sullivan of his vote and his right to hold office, and, therefore, his standing as a man and a citizen. All remedies have been exhausted in defense of Sullivan the only hope of having his citizenship restored to him is through a pardon from the governor.

The statutes of Missouri does not cover the case of soliciting a bribe. For such an act there is no statutory penalty. But the courts have gone back to the English common law which, while making no reference and consequently attaching no penalty to the soliciting of a bribe, yet made it a misdemeanor to solicit any person to commit a crime.

The Sullivan case is one of the most exceptional ever met with in the United States. Only twice before, once in New Jersey and again in Illinois, have there been any prosecutions for soliciting a bribe. The law upon which the prosecutions were based was established by the United States upon the settlement of Jamestown in the fourth year of the reign of James III. At that time there was no penalty attached to either the solicitation or the giving of a bribe to the legislative officers of the government, although there were provisions of severe penalties for the corruption of judges. That was the law of Missouri and is the law today, except that statutory changes have been made from time to time. These modifications have never changed the common law attitude upon the matter of soliciting a bribe. It was not until the reign of Queen Victoria, that there was any statute enacted in England that made the penalty of bribe offering or bribe taking applicable to members of parliament.

Roosevelt and the Railroads.

No sooner had Wall street recovered its voice after the late flurry, than it began to be whispered about that it was the President's message, or the portion of it dealing with railroad rebates, that caused the heavy decline in stocks.

No doubt, the railway managers are considerably annoyed over the proposed legislation and will send a powerful lobby to Washington to fight it, but equally certain is it that this had nothing whatever to do with the market. No man understands better than Mr. Lawson how "to throw the scare" into holders of fluctuating stocks, and he made his preparations for this coup with great care. The fact that the market rallied within an hour is evidence that there was no deep-seated influence at work.

Beside, there was nothing in the President's recommendations on the rebate question that should disturb the honest man. He merely urges legislation that will put an effectual stop to the granting of "special privileges" to favored shippers. The interstate commerce commission can investigate, but has no remedial power where discrimination has been proved, and it is power of this kind that the President wants conferred. This legislation cannot, or should not, affect the earning powers of railroads. They may possibly affect the earning capacity of certain favored corporations, but whatever they lose will be gain to their competitors.

There is an alarming trend in this country toward socialism. Municipalities are going into the public ownership business and there is considerable talk about government ownership. The way to encourage these movements is to oppose efforts to regulate the inequalities of the present system. Railway companies should assist the President to bring about the proposed reform because it is to their advantage. Should they succeed in defeating the measure, they will have aided materially those people who are planning a campaign that has for its ultimate goal, government ownership of railroads, telegraphs and telephones. Whereas reasonable legislation, that will assure every shipper fair treatment at the hands of transportation companies, will go a long way toward silencing the socialist propaganda.

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